

09/761,915

an elastic body having opposite proximal and distal ends and a hollow interior, said hollow interior at said proximal end receiving said second end of said rod shaped body, said distal end having a tapered tip extending away from said rod shaped body; and a plurality of hard, [inorganic] fine-grains fixed on said tapered tip of said elastic body, said fine-grains configured for removal of membrane tissue on a retina of an individual.

3. (Amended) A membrane eraser according to claim 1, wherein said hard [inorganic] fine-grains comprise grains having a range in diameter from 3 μm to 80 μm .

4. (Amended) A membrane eraser according to claim 1, wherein said hard [inorganic] fine-grains comprise diamond particles.

6. (Amended) A membrane eraser according to claim 1, wherein said hard [inorganic] fine-grains are fixed by a silicone base adhesive to said tapered tip.

8. Cancelled.

9. (Amended) [The ophthalmic treatment tool according to claim 8 wherein] An ophthalmic treatment tool comprising:

a grip;
a rod shaped body having opposite first and second ends, said first end attached to said grip, said second end extending away from said grip;
an elastic body attached to said second end of said rod shaped body, said elastic body having a tapered tip extending away from said rod shaped body;
a plurality of hard, fine-grains fixed on said tapered tip of said elastic body, said fine-grains having a diameter in a range of 3 μm to 80 μm , and
said elastic body has a general cylindrical shape with opposite proximal and distal ends and a hollow interior, said proximal end is fitted onto said second end of said rod shaped body, said distal end is cut on a bevel forming said tapered tip.

10. (Amended) The ophthalmic treatment tool according to claim [8] 9 wherein said rod shaped body has a slender line portion at said second end, the elastic body is fitted on said slender line portion.

09/761,915

12. (Amended) An ophthalmic treatment tool comprising:

a grip;
a rod shaped body having opposite first and second ends, said first end attached to said grip, said second end having a slender line portion extending away from said grip;
an elastic body having a generally tubular shape with openings at opposite proximal and distal ends, said proximal end opening receiving said slender line portion therein, said second end being spaced from said slender line portion and extending to a distal end having a taper; and
a plurality of hard, [inorganic] fine-grains fixed on said distal end of said elastic body.

16. Cancelled.

17. Cancelled.

18. Cancelled.

19. Cancelled.

20. Cancelled.

21. (New) An ophthalmic membrane eraser comprising:

a tool having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, a rigid portion of the tool adjacent the tool proximal end and an elastic, flexible portion of the tool adjacent the tool distal end, the elastic portion of the tool is attached to the rigid portion of the tool and projects from the rigid portion of the tool for a portion of the length of the tool to the tool distal end, the elastic portion of the tool has a tapered tip at the tool distal end; and

a plurality of hard, fine-grains fixed to the elastic portion of tool, the fine-grains are fixed to the elastic portion of the tool only at the tapered tip and are absent from a remainder of the elastic portion of the tool so as not to detract from the flexibility of the remainder of the elastic portion of the tool.

22. (New) The membrane eraser of claim 21, wherein: